

HOUSE RESOLUTION 103

By Favors

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Reverend James Penny on the celebration of his fortieth year as pastor of Greater Friendship Primitive Baptist Church.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens, who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community and religious leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is the Reverend James Penny, who, in May, 2007, will celebrate forty years as the Pastor of Greater Friendship Primitive Baptist Church in Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, a native of Huntsville, Alabama, Reverend Penny moved to Chattanooga in 1950; he served with acumen alacrity as a Chattanooga Police Officer from 1956 until he resigned from law enforcement in 1967, the same year in which he joined Greater Friendship Primitive Baptist Church and opened Professional Tailors; and

WHEREAS, in May of 1967, he joined the Greater Friendship family as its Pastor, and for the past forty years he has led his flock through both good times and bad, providing guidance and leadership to the greater glory of God; and

WHEREAS, licensed by the late Reverend A. M. Syler and ordained by the Reverend A. L. Shepard in 1967, Reverend Penny truly loves the Lord and the church, and he also shares a love for the beauty of God's kingdom; he enjoys nature and gardening, and shares most of the vegetables he grows each year in his garden; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Penny epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, he is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, the former Janet Maffett, to whom he was married on June 5, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Penny also appreciates the support and love of his daughters, JoAnn Penny and Sandra Payne; his stepchildren, Joe Maffett Jr. and Robin Lewis; his grandchildren, Chris and Erica; his step grandchildren, Korey, Kortney, Jermale, and Payton; and his great-grandchildren, Mark, Hannah, and Tyler; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Reverend James Penny for his dedication to the state of Tennessee and its citizens and to the congregation of Greater Friendship Church; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Reverend James Penny for his meritorious service as pastor of Greater Friendship Primitive Baptist Church for the past forty years, applaud his dedication to God and the church's membership, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.